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LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On behalf of the European Union I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement by the Presidency of the European Union on the Korean peninsula.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Giulio TERZI DI SANT'AGATA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the Korean peninsula, issued by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The announcement made on 4 April by the People's Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that it would give up its duty concerning maintenance and administration of the demilitarized zone, and the subsequent violations of the Armistice Agreement by troops of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the joint security area have led to world-wide concern.

The European Union urges the authorities in Pyongyang to cease all activities which could result in a further increase in the tension on the Korean peninsula, and to abide by the terms of the Armistice Agreement.

The European Union recognizes that the Armistice has been instrumental in maintaining peace and security on the Korean peninsula and believes it should remain in place until such time as a peace treaty can be negotiated between all the parties concerned, including the Republic of Korea.